States Item
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SPORTS-MARKETS FINAL NEWS BULLETINS

Attorneys for one-time New Orleans party girl Sandra Moffett McMaines, 22, said today she will fight attempts to have her returned here for questioning in the Kennedy assassination plot investigation.

Judge Bernard J. Bagert signed a certificate of attendance yesterday, asking Nebraska courts to compel Mrs. McMaines to testify before the Orleans Grand Jury April 18, 19 and 20.

She was arrested recently at Omaha and freed on $1,000 bond after Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's office swore out a material witness warrant against her.

Speaking of Garrison's office, a member of Mrs. McMaines' attorney's staff at Omaha asserted today:

"They have not demonstrated any care in the way they treat witnesses. This was demonstrated by the way they came up here and arrested her and made her post bond."

Mrs. McMaines, whose real name is Lille Mae Moffett McMaines, lived here in the early 1960s under the name Sandra Moffett. She has admitted knowing the late investigation figure David W. Ferrie and has said she was once in love with star Garrison witness Perry R. Russo of Baton Rouge.

Her bond in the material witness case permits Mrs. McMaines to travel outside of the jurisdiction of the courts at Omaha.

OBSERVERS CLOSE TO THE case at Omaha say she may not be available for service in the latest move to bring her here for questioning.

Court attaches here said Judge Bagert's order yesterday makes Mrs. McMaines' return to New Orleans virtually automatic. Both Louisiana and Nebraska have adopted a uniform code which compels witnesses in important cases to appear before courts and othe competent legal bodies.

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The appearance certificate was being forwarded by Garrison's office to the Douglas County attorney at Omaha. The next step would be a court hearing in Omaha to determine if she is a material witness.

MRS. M'MAINES already is scheduled to appear at another hearing at Omaha April 25 to answer charges that she is a fugitive witness from Garrison's investigation. Her attorneys said she would appear then.

"She wants to be under the protection of the Nebraska courts," her lawyer's office explained. "And she is going to fight going back there unless she has that protection."

Judge Bagert's certificate of attendance issued yesterday guarantees Mrs. McMaines against arrest in Louisiana or in any state through which she may travel. A check for $246 was issued by the Criminal District Court clerk to cover travel and lodging expenses.

MEANWHILE, Gov. John J. McKeithen was expected to execute extradition papers today for another fugitive witness, Gordon Novel, but an aide said the documents had not arrived at Baton Rouge this morning.

The governor reportedly wants Novel returned to the state as quickly as possible.

He telephoned the office of Ohio Gov. James A. Rhodes yesterday urging that Novel's extradition be expedited. McKeithen's office said he was assured of early action.

NOVEL IS FREE at Columbus, Ohio, on $10,000 bond. He was arrested under a warrant charging him with conspiracy to burglarize a Houma munitions dump in 1961.

Since his arrest, Novel has raised the governor's ire by claiming he is a brigadier general on McKeithen's staff. The 29-year-old former tavern owner contends he worked for the governor in 1965 and 1966 and was the state chief's "confidant."

McKeithen denies knowing him and says he never signed a brigadier general's commission for the elusive witness.

NOVEL TOLD newsmen at Columbus yesterday he sold antibugging equipment to McKeithen in 1965 to "protect the governor from Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison."

The governor shot back, "Ridiculous."

Garrison wants Novel as a witness in his continuing inquiry into what the DA contends was a plot hatched in New Orleans to slay President John F. Kennedy. Former New Orleans businessman Clay L. Shaw, 54, has been indicted for conspiracy in the assassination and is free on $10,000 bond.

NOVEL AND a onetime Cuban anti-Castro leader here, Sergio Arcacha Smith, 44, stand twice charged in connection with the theft of explosives from a Houma munitions depot. They have been charged with conspiracy here and with simple burglary by Terrebonne Parish authorities.

No one has said what, if any, connection the 1961 burglary has with Kennedy's death more than two years later.

RUSSO SAID he was accompanied by Sandra Moffett to a party at the Louisiana ave. pkwy. apartment of David W. Ferrie the night Russo claims he heard Ferrie, Shaw and Lee Harvey Oswald plot Kennedy's assassination in 1963.

Ferrie, a pilot, died here Feb. 22, five days after Garrison's investigation was made public. Mrs. McMaines admitted knowing Ferrie, but denied attending the party. She said she was not introduced to Ferrie until 1965.